

Message Text

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15

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 DRC-01 /136 W

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P R 150830Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6158

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES PRIORITY

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAR ES SALAAM 2771

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, PDEV, MZ, TZ, PO

SUBJECT: PORTUGUESE-FRELIMO NEGOTIATIONS

REF: LISBON 3479 (NOTAL)

1. SENIOR FON. MIN. OFFICIAL TOLD EMB. OFF. THIS MORNING THAT NEITHER PORTUGUESE FON. MIN. SOARES NOR ANY SENIOR PORTUGUESE OFFICIALS ARE IN DAR ES SALAAM AT PRESENT TIME. WHEN ASKED IF THEY ARE EXPECTED TO ARRIVE SOON, OFFICIAL SAID IT IS POSSIBLE THEY MAY COME WITHIN NEXT 24 HOURS. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, IT
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IS NOT CERTAIN WHETHER PORTUGUESE NEGOTIATING TEAM WILL MEET

WITH FRELIMO IN LUSAKA OR DAR ES SALAAM. OFFICIAL SAID PORTUGUESE PREFER TO COME TO DAR ES SALAAM RATHER THAN LUSAKA.

2. SENIOR OFFICIAL WITH AFRICAN LIBERATION COMMITTEE (ALC) ALSO TOLD EMB. OFF. THIS MORNING THAT IT IS "DIFFICULT TO CONFIRM OR DENY" PRESENCE OR ARRIVAL OF PORTUGUESE DELEGATION IN DAR ES SALAAM. HE DID NOT BELIEVE DELEGATION IS CURRENTLY IN TOWN, HOWEVER, AND NOTED THERE IS STILL POSSIBILITY NEGOTIATIONS WILL TAKE PLACE IN LUSAKA. OFFICIAL, WHO SAW SAMORA MACHEL AUGUST 14, QUOTED MACHEL AS SAYING FRELIMO EXPECTS PORTUGUESE DELEGATION TO ARRIVE "ANY TIME". OFFICIAL DID NOT THINK MACHEL HAS ANY PLANS FOR DEPARTING DAR ES SALAAM FOR LUSAKA, BUT DID NOT RULE OUT THIS POSSIBILITY. OFFICIAL SAID SUBSEQUENTLY IN CONVERSATION THAT WE SHOULD KNOW ANSWER TO RIDDLE IN MATTER OF HOURS.

3. MACHEL, IN CONVERSATION WITH ALC OFFICIAL, SUGGESTED THAT PORTUGUESE ARE ANXIOUS TO GET NEGOTIATIONS UNDER WAY WITH FRELIMO IMMEDIATELY BECAUSE OF DETERIORATING SITUATION IN MOZAMBIQUE. MACHEL REASONED THAT PORTUGUESE WANT FRELIMO COOPERATION IN RESTORING ORDER. ALC OFFICIAL ADDED THAT FRELIMO HAS ALREADY TAKEN STEPS TO TRY TO ASSURE WHITE SETTLERS IN MOZAMBIQUE THEY WILL NOT BE HARRASSED BY FRELIMO FORCES.

4. LOCAL REUTERS CORRESPONDENT HAS LIKEWISE HEARD RUMORS OF IMMINENT ARRIVAL PORTUGUESE DELEGATION, BUT AS OF THIS MORNING WAS UNABLE TO CONFIRM DELEGATION'S PRESENCE IN DAR ES SALAAM.

5. COMMENT: BASED ON AVAILABLE EVIDENCE, IT WOULD APPEAR THAT PORTUGUESE DELEGATION HAS NOT YET ARRIVED IN DAR ES SALAAM ALTHOUGH IT WILL PROBABLY BE IN CITY WITHIN 24 HOURS. WE ARE CURIOUS, HOWEVER, WHY VENUE FOR TALKS HAS APPARENTLY CHANGED FROM LUSAKA TO DAR ES SALAAM.
BEYER

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